

YOUR KIND ATTENTION PLEASE OPPOSITION LEADER. –MRS. KAMLA PERSAD BISSESSAR. Friday 30th Oct. 2020.

Can you use your good Office as an Attorney at Law with access to the Companies Registry, to check on a **company by the name of Qualicool Maintenance Company Limited**, who has been given a contract to **clean our river courses in Trinidad and Tobago for 3 (three) years** since early 2020.

They started a River Clean-up Gang in my Diego Martin Region in June 2020 and hired 30 persons to work daily from 8am to noon. This Gang has a Foreman and a Checker and operate like CECEP, paying fortnightly. The Field Officer for the Company is a person by the name of Avinash.

The Company has 30 Gangs operating and my Diego Martin source has informed me that **they were paid for 6 fortnights and worked for 9 to date but have not been paid for 3 (three) fortnights**. These are men and women in my area with spouses and children attending school.

With COVID and families at home and schools closed, many having unemployed and underemployed children to assist in taking care of, many with seniors in their home who can assist but now have additional demands on their small pensions and **a Budget for 2021 making no special provision to address concerns like this one**, my sincere outreach to you and your Parliamentary Team, is for some high level attention to address the case in point during your presence in Parliament.

My source indicated that **CECEP was allocated 43 Billion dollars in this Budget** and **this company, Qualicool Maintenance, allocated 1 Billion dollars** and stated that CECEP is paid on time and regularly. These workers in my area have not received any Pay Slips yet but were told to open Bank Accounts for the future depositing of fortnightly salaries.

In my research work as a Specialist in the Sector of Housing and Settlement Development, several Longitudinal Case Studies, have been given up-front attention and the details which will be sent to you **are private and confidential data** as an Attorney at Law and Parliamentarian. **They highlight the level of distress being experience by many such families.**

One such Case Study above mentioned, has a 9-year-old son attending the Diego Martin Primary School, now at home, **with no Standard 3 Books as yet**, with no Internet and computer at his home to attend **the excellent Zoom Classes and Google Group Outreach being made by his teacher**. A concern which seems to be inadequately addressed by this Budget.

This boy is now attending his Class in my home using my personal computer and paid for Internet Service by Amplia and TSTT Limited. My printer is down and any copies which must be made are done so elsewhere in copy shops. My 7-year-old grandson is using a Tablet to learn.

Your kind attention will be greatly appreciated. Signed: -.....Donald D. Berment.